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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/852,032	05/10/2001	Masahisa Kobayashi	NEC01P092-Sib	4640

7590 10/27/2003

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EXAMINER
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KNOLL, CLIFFORD H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2189

DATE MAILED: 10/27/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Pre

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/852,032

Applicant(s)

KOBAYASHI, MASAHAISA

Examiner

Clifford H Knoll

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.  |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                         | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>2</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: .  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1, 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawahara (US 6285092) in view of SGS-Thomson ("IEEE1394 3-Port 400 Mbps Physical Layer (SBPH400-3)", Preliminary Data Sheet, SGS-Thomson Microelectronics, 16 March 1998).

Regarding claim 1, Kawahara discloses voltage detection means and code generation means for generating a code indicative of power information (e.g., col.4, lines 42-46), changing point detection means for detecting a change of the result of the determination output (e.g., col.5, lines 34-42), a physical layer circuit for being reset with an output signal and placing the code generated by the code generation means and indicative of the power class information in accordance with the IEEE 1394 standard. Kawahara does not expressly mention the specification details of the self-ID packet sent in response to bus reset; however, this feature is widely known as exemplified by SGS-Thomson. SGS-Thomson discloses self-identification in response to the occurrence of

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bus resetting, indicative of the power class information into a self-ID packet to be used for transmission (e.g., §2.6, §2.7.2, Table 2.1).

Regarding claim 2, Kawahara also discloses determining whether or not an output voltage of power supplied from the serial bus is present, where the changing point detection means detects a change of the result of the determination of said voltage detection means only when said bus voltage detection means detects that the power supplied from said serial bus is higher than a predetermined voltage (e.g., col. 6, lines 25-34, col.7, lines 42-45).

It would be obvious to combine SGS-Thomson with Kawahara, because SGS-Thomson reveals, in the specification of a IEEE1394 physical layer implementation, the details of node operation in the IEEE1394 serial bus. This node operation is the subject of Kawahara's invention. Therefore it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Kawahara with SGS-Thomson at the time the invention was made.

2. Claims 3, 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawahara in view of SGS-Thomson as applied in claim 1 supra, further in view of Kobayashi (US 30030179719)

Regarding claim 3, Kawahara discloses voltage detection means and code generation means for generating a code indicative of power information (e.g., col.4, lines 42-46), changing point detection means for detecting a change of the result of the determination output (e.g., col.5, lines 34-42), a physical layer circuit for being reset with

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an output signal and placing the code generated by the code generation means and indicative of the power class information in accordance with the IEEE 1394 standard. Kawahara does not expressly mention the specification details of the self-ID packet sent in response to bus reset; however, this feature is widely known as exemplified by SGS-Thomson. SGS-Thomson discloses self-identification in response to the occurrence of bus resetting, indicative of the power class information into a self-ID packet to be used for transmission (e.g., §2.6, §2.7.2, Table 2.1).

Kawahara discloses the desirability of automatically changing the power class setting of a 1394 node; however, he does not expressly mention the particular implementation of automatically changing by causing bus resetting to occur in response to an output signal from the changing point detection means. However, this feature is well known in the art as exemplified by Kobayashi. Kobayashi discloses the standard feature of bus resetting when the configuration changes, as in the “start of power supply in a connected device” (paragraph [0069]).

Regarding claim 4, Kawahara also discloses determining whether or not an output voltage of power supplied from the serial bus is present, where the changing point detection means detects a change of the result of the determination of said voltage detection means only when said bus voltage detection means detects that the power supplied from said serial bus is higher than a predetermined voltage (e.g., col. 6, lines 25-34, col.7, lines 42-45).

It would be obvious to combine Kawahara and SGS-Thomson with Kobayashi, because Kobayashi discloses the use of bus reset to automatically notify of

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configuration changes in the practice of the IEEE1394 serial bus implementation.

Kawahara's invention is directed toward providing automatic notification of a configuration change, specifically a power class change. A person of ordinary skill in the art would find it obvious to use Kobayashi, which details the means of automatic notification of configuration change, with Kawahashi, which provides for a particular automatic configuration change in the practice of the IEEE1394 serial bus standard. Therefore it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Kawahara and SGS-Thomson with Kobayashi at the time the invention was made.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Bennett (US 2002/0152341) discloses the practice of using bus reset for notifying of configuration changes (note in particular the specification details of the standard self-ID packet in Figure 5 and 6). Schwan discloses the selection of a bus or local power source in an IEEE1394 bus (e.g., col.15, lines 19-25).


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clifford H Knoll whose telephone number is 703-305-8656. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 0630-1500.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark H Rinehart can be reached on 703-305-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-2100.

chk

  
XUAN M. THAI  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
TC2100